## **Address Confidentiality Program**

# Safe at home Jason Kander • Secretary Of State

#### **Application Assistant Update**

**Fall 2016** 

#### Safe at Home Expanded to Include Human Trafficking Survivors

The secretary of state's office is pleased to announce the signing of HB 1562 into law which expands the *Safe at Home* program to protect survivors of human trafficking. The updated statute went into effect August 28, 2016. The addition of this language to the statute requires an update to a few pieces of the *Safe at Home* application packet. You will receive three copies of the revised Participant Application and the *Safe at Home* information sheet. When you receive them, please insert the new forms into the application packets you already have and recycle or destroy the old forms. If you need more than three copies to update all of the packets in your possession, please contact us for additional forms. You may continue to use the old forms until the new forms are mailed to you.

Official copies of the revised statute and administrative rules will be posted on <a href="www.MoSafeAtHome.com">www.MoSafeAtHome.com</a> once they are made available. Updated brochures and posters will also be available in the next few weeks. If you would like to order new publications, you may contact our office or <a href="place an order online">place an order online</a>.



Secretary of State Jason Kander joined Governor Jay Nixon in Kansas City as new protections for trafficking survivors were signed into law in June.

#### Safe at Home Stats

Safe at Home has been operating in Missouri since August 28, 2007, and has served over **3400** participants. The last twelve months have seen the highest number of enrollment in the history of our program with over **600** men, women and children enrolling since August **28, 2015**. We currently serve over 1400 participants with a substitute address and mail-forwarding service. Safe at Home forwarded over **22,000** envelopes in **2015** and has forwarded over 15,000 envelopes so far in 2016.

#### **Legislative Updates**

In 2015, *Safe at Home* participants were given the option to vote absentee if they feel going to a polling place on Election Day poses a threat to their safety. Participants may vote absentee through the mail or at the office of their local election authority prior to Election Day.

In 2016, the signing of HB1562 expanded the set of aggravating factors in existing stalking law to include situations where the victim is a *Safe at Home* participant. Full language can be found in Missouri Revised Statute 565.225.

#### **Application Assistant Training**

Application Assistant training will be held throughout the state in September and October. If you have staff or volunteers at your agency who would like to attend, registration is available online or by contacting the *Safe at Home* program office. Current Application Assistants are given the option to renew their registration status online, but are welcome to attend a training in person any time they would like a refresher. Training is offered at no cost, but registration is required. All trainings are from 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Sept. 27—Cameron Oct. 12—Cape Girardeau Sept. 30—Nevada Oct. 18—St. Louis Oct. 25—Lee's Summit



#### Missouri joins new national organization

The Missouri *Safe at Home* program is one of 35 states with an address confidentiality program. We are pleased to announce that Missouri has been involved in the establishment of the National Association of Confidential Address Programs (NACAP) and is now a Founding Member of this new organization. Program Manager Brenda Sites currently serves on the NACAP Board of Directors and was a presenter at the first NACAP conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, in September.



### Voter Registration Reminders

If a Safe at Home applicant chooses to register in his or her new county of residence, Safe at Home must receive the properly completed Voter Registration Application no later than October 12 for the applicant to be registered in his or her new county for the November General Election.

Please be sure the applicant does not write any addresses on the voter application form. These forms do not remain in the *Safe at Home* office and we do not want to expose the confidential address.

Applicants are not required to be registered voters, but every applicant must be given the opportunity to register.

#### Safe at Home

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